

AGENDA ITEM

US FOREST SERVICE COST/SHARE SUMMARY Supplement No. 34, Flathead National Forest (Polebridge) June 20, 2011

RIGHT-OF-WAY-APPLICATION FILE NO. 15773

I. Applicant:

United States of America (Flathead NF- USFS)
Region 1
Flathead National Forest
Kalispell, MT 59901

II. Purpose of Reciprocal Cost-Share Agreement:

State land is intermingled with private and the US Forest Service lands administered by the Flathead National Forest. In order for both the State of Montana and the US Forest Service to gain legal access, it is necessary to exchange easements as provided by the Master Cost/Share Agreement with the US Forest Service.

III. Legal Description:

The State of Montana and the USA (Flathead National Forest) in the following described lands will exchange standard Cost Share easements with a Right-of-Way width of 60 feet on National Forest and 3rd party lands, variable width on State lands.

State Lands: Section 10, T26N, R19W

National Forest System Lands: Section 17, T35N, R21W

Note: Forest Service will assign rights on:

small private: Section 20, T35N, R21W

IV. General Information:

Tributary area, right of way area, and miles of road are summarized as follows:

	State	USFS	Third Party *	Total
Tributary Area:	318 acres	39 acres	0.22 acres	357.22 acres
Right of Way Area:	2.14 acres	1.82 acres	0.22 acres	4.18 acres
Miles of Road:	0.50 miles	0.25 miles	0.04 miles	0.79 miles

* USFS assumes 3rd party shares.

Land Office:	NWLO
Unit Offices:	Stillwater, Kalispell
Land Classification:	Forest
Beneficiaries	C.S. – Public School (Section 16, T35N, R21W) and S.N.S. – State Normal School (Western/Eastern) (Section 10, T26N, R19W)
Counties:	Flathead and Lake

V. Costs to be Borne by Each Party:

Excess costs, by land value and road costs, were determined by negotiation with the USFS Flathead National Forest in accordance with the principals found in the Master Cost Share Agreement. The Summary of Shares and Excess Costs for Supplement No. 34 are summarized as follows:

	EXCESS COSTS	
	Gov't Owes State	State Owes Gov't
Land Value		\$ 1,672
Road Costs	\$ 861	
Total Value/Costs	\$ 861	\$ 1,672
Amount Owed*		\$ 811

***Upon approval by the Land Board and exchange of deeds, the balance due of \$811 will be added to the Master Cost Share balance sheet.**

VI. Results of MEPA Analysis:

The Kalispell Unit, DNRC, and USFS each prepared and approved a Categorical Exclusion for the Crane Mountain portion of the project.

The USFS prepared and approved an Environmental Assessment (Red Whale), Decision Notice, and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Polebridge portion of the project.

VII. Benefits to State:

Shared maintenance and future reconstruction costs

Access rights across private land acquired from Forest Service on not only a "share basis" but also at the original cost basis.

VIII. Recommendation/Action:

After review of the documents, exhibits, and benefits to the State, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation recommends approval of the Polebridge Cost Share Supplement No. 34 with the US Forest Service.